

MAKATON

Hello!

Thank
you!



GET LEARNING



1 HOUR



PREPARATION
NEEDED

AIM

Learn the basics of communicating using Makaton, a sign and symbol language used alongside spoken words. This activity is supported by **Down's Syndrome Scotland**.

WHAT YOU'LL NEED

- Makaton Videos
- Projector / Large TV Screen

GET LEARNING: MAKATON

THEME: MY SKILLS FOR LIFE



LEADER PREPARATION

A leader will need to have access to the videos being used. Videos can be downloaded from our Vimeo channel for groups without WiFi at their meeting space. A leader will need to have watched the videos beforehand and be familiar with the content, so they can assist with the learning.



GETTING INTO THE ACTIVITY

We've partnered with **Down's Syndrome Scotland** to produce some introductory videos for communicating with Makaton. Watching the 'What is Makaton' video is recommended first, as this includes some important tips on how to use Makaton, which are useful for the other videos. The rest of the videos are all standalone, so you can watch them in any order or pick and choose the topics you'd like to explore.



Watch / download the videos at
<https://boys-brigade.org.uk/programme/videos/>



1 What is Makaton? This video introduces Makaton, explains how it is used and provides some top tips on how to communicate effectively using Makaton.



2 ABCs – Learn how to sign the alphabet, using the British Sign Language alphabet. Once learnt, try signing along to the alphabet song.



3 Key Phases – Learn some key phases in Makaton including sharing your name, how to ask questions and how to say please and thank you.



4 Will Your Anchor Hold? – Learn to sign along to the BB hymn 'Will Your Anchor Hold?'.

If you wish to do all of the activities on this card, then it might work best to spread them over a couple of sessions.



WHAT IS MAKATON?

- Makaton is a unique language that uses signs, symbols and spoken word to help people to communicate.
- Used by over 100,000 children and adults.
- Makaton is often used by young children or individuals who have learning or communication difficulties.



IDEAS TO TAKE THIS FURTHER...

Use this activity as a Junior's Project Award. Learn different parts of Makaton over various sessions, taking more time to learn the language. Expand on the activities by playing some games using Makaton, learning another song and exploring more key phases and words. Could the group put on a performance using a Makaton song?



KEEPING EVERYONE SAFE

Some children will learn things at different speeds, so make sure to have leaders on hand to provide extra support to those who might need it.